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February 2017

ROBBIE WILLIAMS
On family life in Notting Hill

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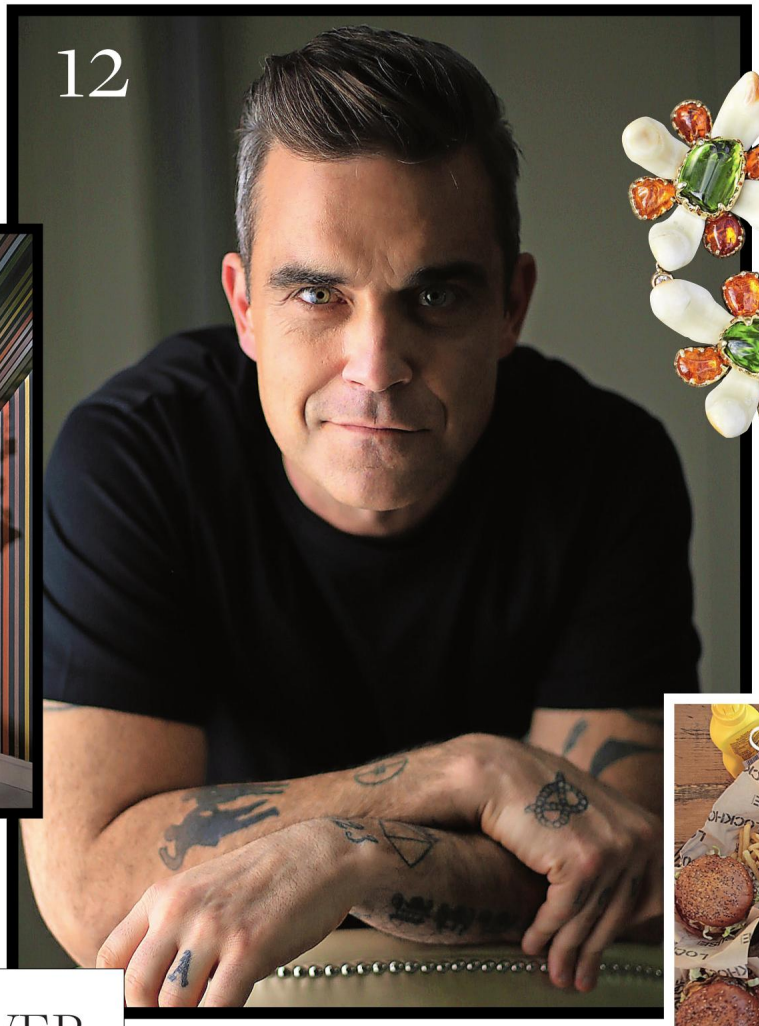

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Letter from the EDITOR

As everyone in The Hill Resident office knows only too well, I am a *Star Wars* nut. I lost count of the number of times the *Episode VII* trailer was played for all to see here (or ignore by others, as was the case on many occasions) and Christmas just gone was all about getting to the cinema to catch spin off, *Rogue One*.

I won't give any spoilers away here – and if you haven't yet seen it, why not? – but there was a moment that made the recent passing of Carrie Fisher, aka Princess Leia, all the more sad. It made me pick up her forthright, brutally honest account of her life, *Wishful Drinking*, once again. It's remarkable to think how those in the public spotlight suffer mentally. I would have loved to have been a part of the *Star Wars* universe, but could I really handle the fame that comes with it? The feeling that you now belong to something out of your control? Being hounded – stalked even – by super fans?

Reading our interview with Robbie Williams this month got me thinking about that again. Part of one the biggest ever boy bands, followed up by solo hit after solo hit, surely Williams has had quite the life? His honest appraisal is, yes, he had quite the time of it, but fame also took him right to the very brink that you sense he is still getting over today. It's a fascinating insight into the world of a truly A-list celebrity.

Even though we can tick a few more days off before spring arrives, let's face it, February is still pretty cold and dark, even though it doesn't come close to the miserable feeling of January. We all still need a little colour in our lives, which is where Kara O'Reilly's special comes into play this month (along with a rather lovely zebra on our cover). Turn to page 24 for a little light in your lives.

My love of *Star Wars* reminds me that February also sees Valentine's make a (un)welcome return – that's one to delete where applicable. I am sure plenty still have romance burning bright within, so Bethan Andrews suggests the local places to buy the best gifts for 14 February. Me? I may see *Rogue One* again.

Mark Kebble, Group Editor

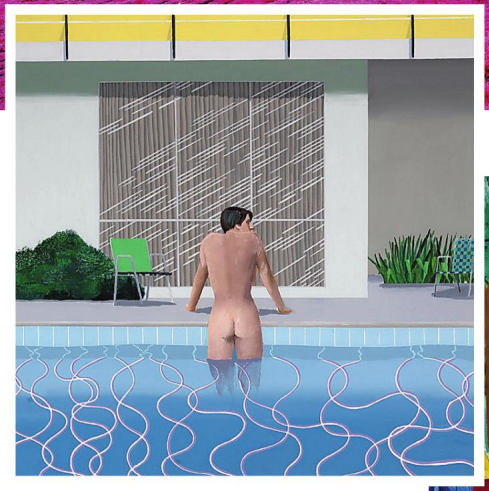
ELANOR TRAVERS (HAIR) AND ERIN FULLER (MAKE UP), GINA CONWAY PRIVE; GINACONWAYPRIVE.COM. PHOTO BY TOM DUNKLEY

Photographer Simon Phipps reveals the beauty in brutality

We follow blogger Little Miss Notting Hill around the area

Rachel Kelly tells you how to ensure your food is making you happy

Different perspectives
In collaboration with composer Ben Frost and cinematographer Trevor Tweeten, conceptual documentary photographer Richard Mosse has created this new exhibition of work, opening on 15 February at the Barbican Centre, using a new, powerful telephoto military camera. With this he has created narratives of the journeys made by refugees, shown in a whole new light.
barbican.org.uk



Private eye
This once-in-a-generation show at Tate Britain, opening on 9 February, will bring together six decades of David Hockney's work for the first time. Major loans from private collections – including works never displayed in public before – will be united with iconic paintings from museums around the world. The retrospective will include vibrant new paintings of the artist's home in Los Angeles, which will be united for the first time with earlier works depicting the same subject across 35 years.
tate.org.uk

LEA NIELSON / NATIONAL THEATRE GRAPHIC DESIGN STUDIO

FREE REIGN

Ivo van Hove, one of the world's most exciting directors, is making his National Theatre debut with a modern production of Ibsen's masterpiece, *Hedda Gabler*. In a new verison by Patrick Marber, the production stars Ruth Wilson in the title role, alongside a cast that also includes Rafe Spall and Sinéad Matthews. Just married, bored already: Hedda longs to be free... The production runs until 21 March.

nationaltheatre.org.uk

Labyrinth of innovation

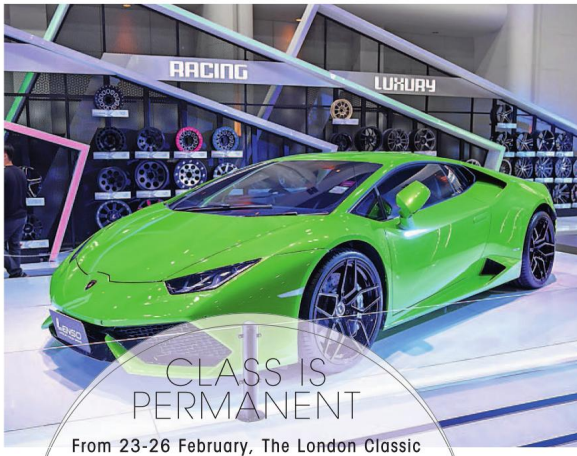
The power of the moving image and its influence across the arts is being celebrated by the Barbican throughout 2017 with Films in Focus. *Cinema Matters Part 1: Industrial Light & Magic*, running until 11 February, looks at the technologies and the business of film, and its implications for storytelling, including Guillermo del Toro's stunning *Pan's Labyrinth*.

barbican.org.uk/film

TROOPING OF THE COLOUR

West London's Griffin Gallery is currently hosting I Lost My Heart to a Starship Trooper. Open until 24 February this is a chance to see works that include both traditional materials and the use of new technologies in a wide variety of media.

griffingallery.co.uk



CLASS IS PERMANENT

From 23-26 February, The London Classic Car Show heads to ExCel London, where visitors will be able to relive the golden years of car motoring. Discover the world's best classic car manufacturers, clubs, collectors and dealers, browse memorabilia, as well as displays of the most prestigious vintage cars. There is also a special celebration of 70 years of Ferrari race cars.

thelondonclassiccarshow.co.uk

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RECOMMENDS

The best Valentine's gifts in west London this month

1 WILD AT HEART

In 1993, the residents of Westbourne Grove commissioned celebrated architect Piers Gough to design an elegant landmark in the heart of the community, a colourful hive of activity that became Wild at Heart's first shop. The brainchild of Nikki Tibbles, it is famed for its opulent and different styles. In addition to their original Turquoise Island shop, Wild at Heart includes a concession in Liberty, a flagship store on the Pimlico Road and a thriving nationwide delivery service.
222 Westbourne Grove W11 2RH; 020 7727 3095; wildatheart.com

2 MELT

A fresh chocolate is like nothing else, it is truly sublime and the perfect gift to waken up the senses on Valentine's Day. All recipes at Melt are designed in-house by the Melt chocolatiers. Melt's unique approach is to have the kitchen in the shop, so you can see your chocolates being made right in front of you. They will gift wrap too.
59 Ledbury Road W11 2AA; 020 7727 5030; meltchocolates.com

3 JEROBOAMS

A good red wine to match the red, velvety tones of Valentine's is a must. Founded in 1985 by Peter Rich, Jeroboams offers an extensive and exciting selection of fine wines and champagnes. They continually exceed their customer's high expectations of them and the staff are highliy skilled and able to offer something special for the occasion.
13 Elgin Crescent W11 2JA; 020 7229 0527; jeroboams.co.uk

4 DAYROOMS

The Dayrooms is a fresh, vibrant and modern addition to Notting Hill. London duo Aytan Mehdiyeva and Zumrud Mammadova have used their passion for Australia and have created London's first Aussie store of its kind. Here you can pick up scented candles that will empower the females in your life and make anyone feel special.
237 Westbourne Grove W11 2SE; thedayrooms.com

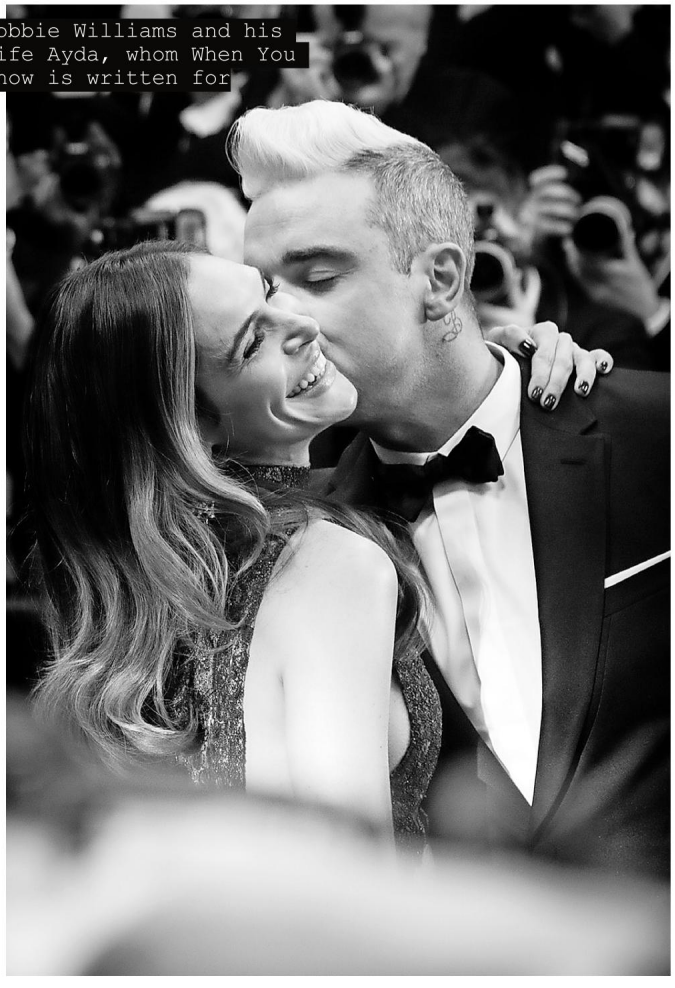
5 DINNY HALL

Jewellery is a great gift for men or women on Valentine's Day and always shows how special someone might be to another. The Dinny Hall jewellery collection is a great place to look. She came to prominence when her entire Central Saint Martin's graduation collection was bought by luxury department store Liberty London.
200 Westbourne Grove W11 2RH; 020 7792 3913; dinnyhall.com

Love *my* life

Even at home in Notting Hill Robbie Williams can be found entertaining, which perhaps explains his new album too

Words KEN SUMMIT



Robbie Williams and his wife Ayda, whom When You Know is written for

With his new album, *The Heavy Entertainment Show*, storming the charts and plans for a London show in June, Robbie Williams tells us what to expect from the new tracks, how his life has changed now that he is married with children and what keeps driving him in his hopes for the future.

It's clear that family and community is central to Williams, and although he is keen to keep on entertaining, there is something special about the way in which this is all focused now.

So Robbie, how are you? I'm excited. I've got a new album and I don't know what's going to happen with it, so it's terrifying and exciting.

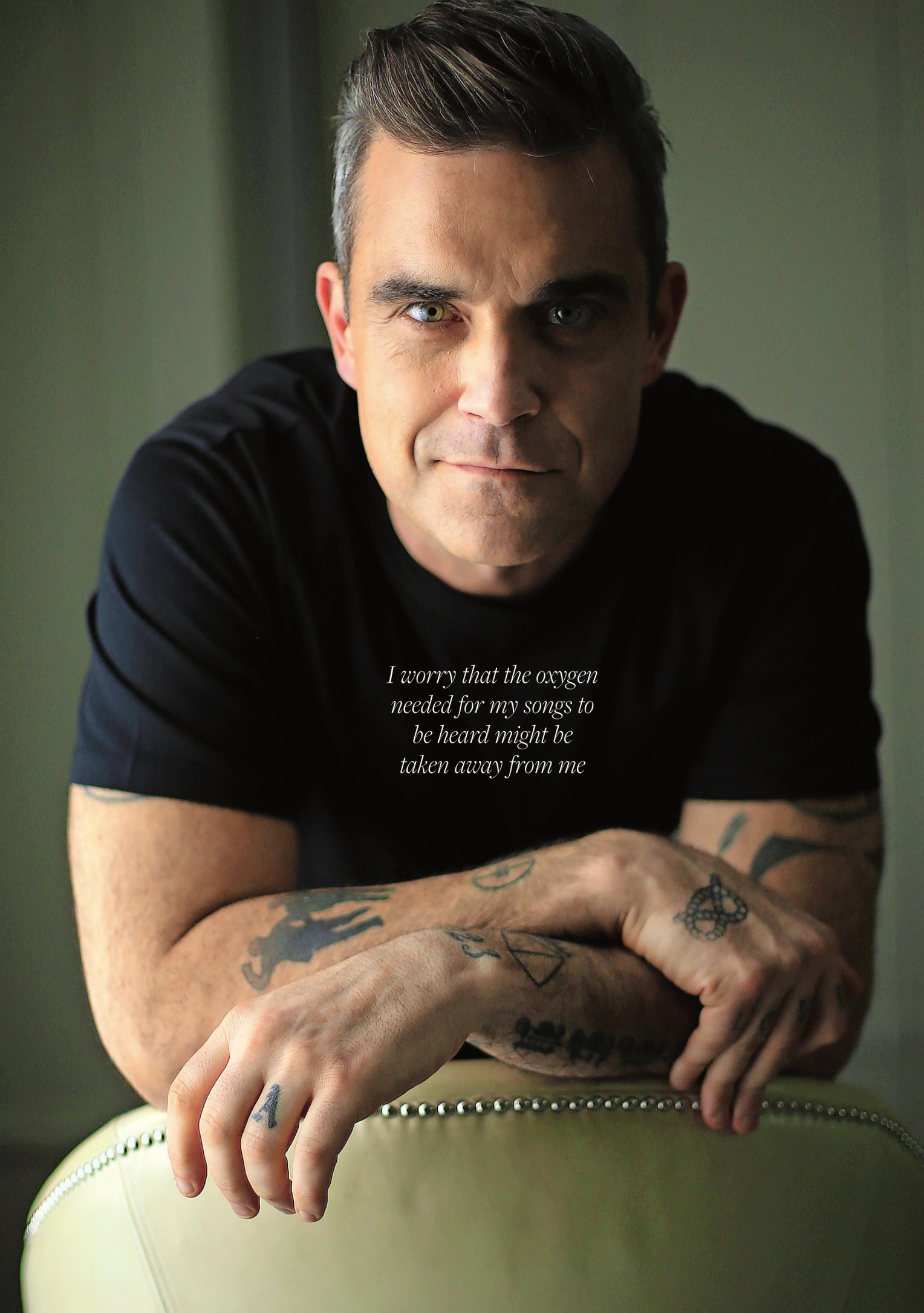
Is it as exciting to bring out a new album now as the first time? Yes, it's a huge weight on my shoulders to keep the ship going. But also, I've got a big ship that goes forward with me. I've got kids, a wife, houses, and a lifestyle. I've still got ambitions, huge ambitions, so I panic and I worry. I worry that the oxygen that is needed for my songs to be heard might be taken away from me at any time.

How come you worry so much, when you've achieved so greatly? Don't you worry all the time about stuff? I think my brain – and I'm sure as humans – its resting position is finding a problem, to panic and worry. It's what keeps you propelling forward, I suppose.

You can rest a little now? No, the album is done, but I was reading an interview with Paul McCartney the other day and it says that he's very happy with his songs but when they go out there and they get reviewed, or people talk badly about them, he views his own stuff badly too. That's Paul McCartney – probably the greatest songwriter ever – and he still struggles with that kind of thing. So the album is done, but that's just the start.

There's a track called Party like a Russian. How do the Russians party? The Russians party in a big way. British ›

MAIN PHOTO: REX FEATURES



I worry that the oxygen needed for my songs to be heard might be taken away from me

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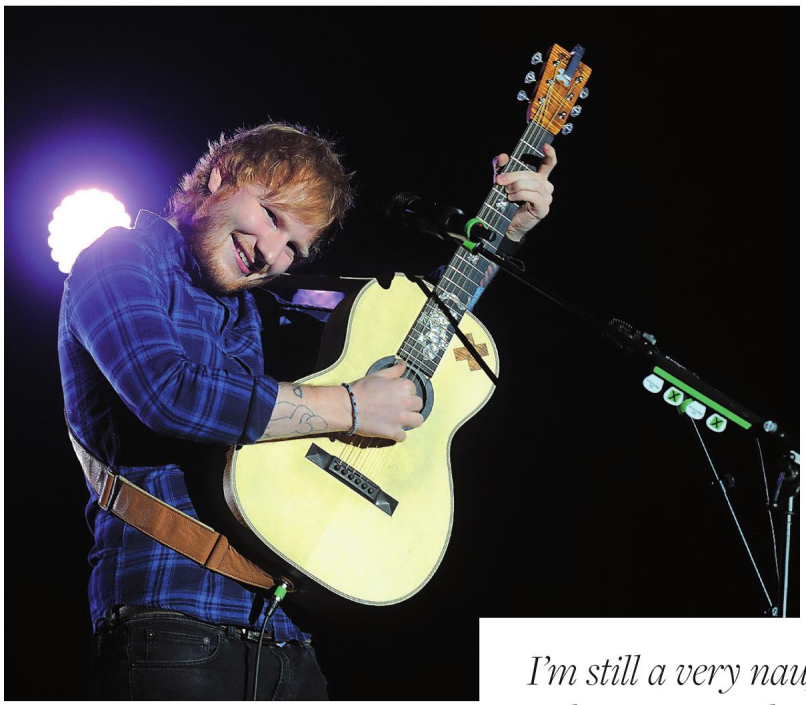

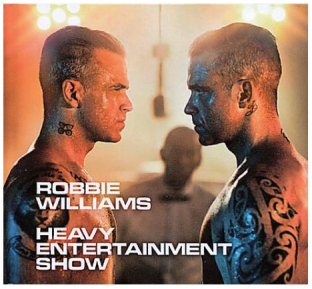

One of the tracks on the new album was penned by Ed Sheeran, left, and below, the historical house in Notting Hill where Williams and his family live

I'm still a very naughty boy gone good. He comes out to play every night in my dreams

people like to consider themselves hardcore partiers but I've been to Russia, I've experienced their parties, and I can assure you that nobody does it like a Russian. They don't give a damn and that's the spirit of hedonism, that's the spirit of partying and I tip my hat to them. It's all vodka, booze, girls, boys, fashion.

But you don't do this stuff anymore, I hear… But I have the spirit of all that inside me. I'm still a very naughty boy gone good. He still comes out to play every now and again in my dreams. Every night actually!

Does a song like *Pretty Woman* come from those dreams and fantasies? No, *Pretty Woman* comes from Ed Sheeran. He sent me this song and I thought that it was missing a chorus, so I did the chorus. I love Ed, everybody loves Ed. He's the nicest guy and he's incredibly talented. He's where the baton right now is for the best song writing on the planet, in pop terms. And I reached out to him and said, 'Have you got any spare hits?' so he sent me this song. I dusted it off, slapped its ass and sent it on its way.

Do you miss the partying? No, I don't. I can't do the time, so I don't do the crime. I can't do the hangovers or the downs and the highs. I love my wife, I love my children and I have to be there for them mentally and physically. I'm really pleased that I did what I did, when I did it, because it was a life experience that I paid for in the end – nearly with my life – but in the good old days it was life-affirming and spiritual.

You say that you nearly paid for it with your life. Was it really that close? Yes, I seemed to be pushing it further than anybody else that was around me. I was testing the limits before I either died or went to rehab. I went to rehab and got clean.

***Love my Life* is beautiful. You sing, 'One day, you'll say to me, I love my life, I'm powerful, beautiful…' Who are you addressing this to?** I'm addressing this to Teddy, my daughter, and Charlie, of course too. Through therapy I learned that it all stems back to childhood and our relationships with family. I hope that I'm giving my children enough grounding and enough support for them to be not as messed up as I was when I got older. And hopefully, with the love we're giving them, they've got a good chance. They're really happy and they live in a world that I didn't live in when I was four.

So, *When you Know* is about your wife? Yes, we were playing the 'what makes the album game' with my wife, what should stay and what should go. She's the gatekeeper of what happens in my life – everything. We were both in the bath and we were going through the album, song by song. *When You Know* is written about Ayda and after it finished she just went: 'No, I don't think that one should go on.' I was like: 'I know you're looking at it objectively, but I did write it about you – so ouch.'

How did you come up with the entertainment theme of the record? It's a title and a concept that I've had for quite a long time. Before singing, before song writing, I'm known primarily as an entertainer and I'm embracing that. This is the *Heavy Entertainment Show*, there will be a tour and you will be entertained. Please buy this and come to the show.

Are you the happiest you've ever been in your life? Well, I'm definitely not the most miserable that I've ever been. I love my life. I am powerful. I am beautiful. I am free.

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Be our VALENTINE

To celebrate the month of love, blogger Little Miss Notting Hill takes us on a walking tour of her favourite parts of our community

Words ANNIE MCMONAGLE-WILMOT

I've been having a love affair with Notting Hill since starting our relationship when I moved in eight years ago, and I love it more every time I wander down the pastel-coloured streets, stop for brunch at one of my locals on a weekend morning or discover a new shop I've never been in before. It has so much more to offer than just the market on Portobello Road that it's most famous for and so, in celebration of Valentine's Day, I wanted to share some of my very favourite places that I've come across over the years. Who knows? Perhaps we'll set someone else off on a love affair with west London.

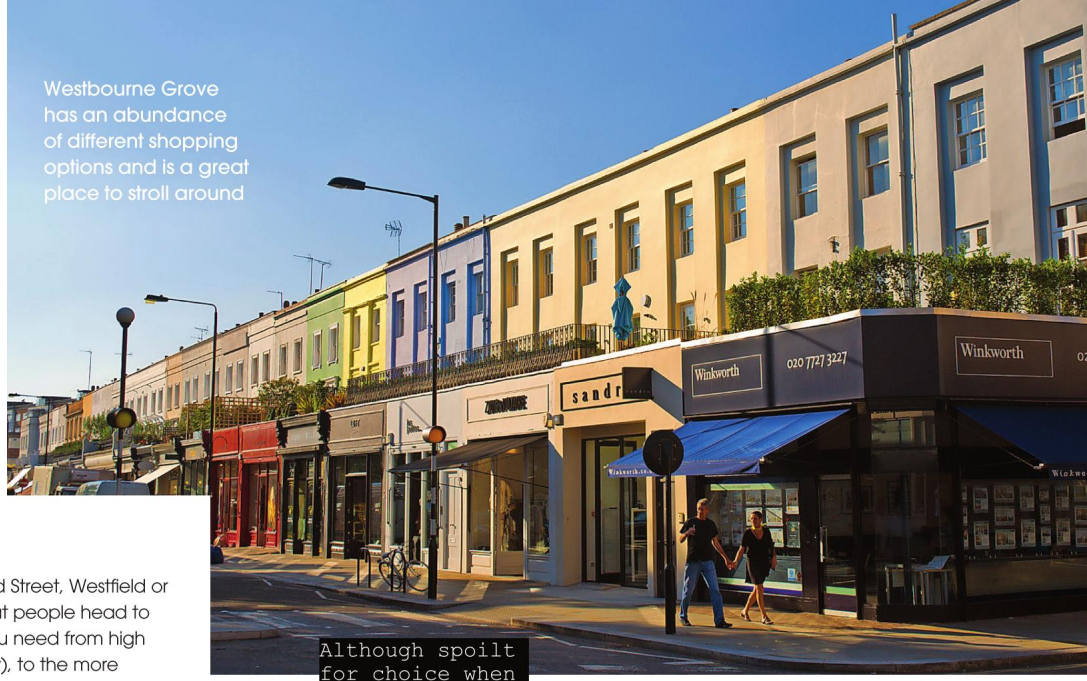
Firm favourites for food are Osteria Basilico and Goode and Wright

EATERIES

There are so many food places in Notting Hill, so it seemed like the perfect place to start our tour. There's a new restaurant or cafe opening up pretty much every month now and although I love trying out the newbies, I'm always drawn to old haunts.

Goode and Wright is a small authentic French restaurant near the top of Portobello that is equally brilliant for breakfast, lunch or dinner. If you're looking for a date night in the area that won't fail you at any time of day, this is the place to try. Osteria Basilico is my husband and I's favourite Italian in the area – try the spaghetti vongole with a glass of Malbec and you won't be disappointed, I promise.

The best thing about the food options in the area though is the sheer choice on offer here. Simply fancy a pizza? Head to Franco Manca on Westbourne Grove. Hankering after a Mexican? Book into Peyotito and enjoy guacamole, ceviche and some of the best margaritas in town. Vegan or vegetarian? Then tuck into some delicious healthy options at Farmacy or Redemption. Jusu Brothers juice bar is also a favourite after a weekend morning workout. There's also nothing I love more than a brunch spot and there's nowhere better for it that Notting Hill on the weekend – try either Eggbreak, 202 cafe (great for celeb spotting and interior inspo) or the Electric Diner for a proper English breakfast. If it's just a cake stop you're looking for, try Lowry and Baker for a slice of cake and a cup of some of the best coffee in the area, all served on quaint mismatched crockery. ›



Westbourne Grove has an abundance of different shopping options and is a great place to stroll around

SHOPPING

Rather than brave the craziness of Oxford Street, Westfield or the Kings Road, I always recommend that people head to Notting Hill instead. There's everything you need from high street (pop into Whiteleys on Queensway), to the more boutique shops on Westbourne Grove – favourites being Wolf and Badger and Club Monaco. The Dayrooms is a new addition to the area that is now a firm favourite; a stunning concept store selling Australian brands with everything from clothes, candles, pastel-hued home ware and accessories.

If you're simply looking to have a mooch around, head to Aesop for some incredible beauty products or Diptyqe for your new candle or that little gift for someone special.

ESCAPE

One of the things that I love most about Notting Hill is the proximity to parks. With both Hyde Park and Holland Park on the doorstep, you can easily escape the busier streets and experience some of London's prettiest greenery.

My personal regular escape stroll is to head to the Kyoto Gardens in Holland Park, with a chai tea latte in hand and with a good podcast or soundtrack in my headphones. Another lovely form of escapism is to duck into the Museum of Brands on Lancaster Road – it's a fascinating and underrated little museum showcasing the history of packaging and advertising and is so much more fun that it sounds. There's the cutest little shop there that's great to pick up gifts for friends, family or bits for the home.

DATE NIGHT

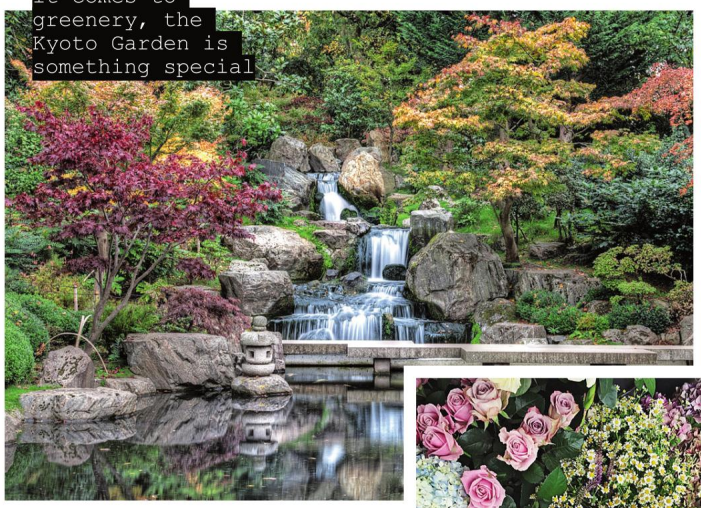
And what about something a little bit different for date night this month? This is where Notting Hill really comes into its own, as there is so much diversity and choice when it comes to different things to do in the area.

Perhaps for a day date, you could explore the antique shops. The famous antiques market on Portobello is, of course, a must for any Notting hill newbie, but there are also incredible antique stores to explore too. My favourites are Alice's, Phoenix on Golborne and Jensen and Ballantine; I highly recommend a visit to any of these if you're interested in interior design too.

For those of you on a first date, then snuggle up in the Electric Cinema on Portobello, an institution in the area and one that I think is the best cinema in London. Splash out when you want to watch a film you're really excited about and book one of the beds, snuggle under the complimentary blankets they give you and order a cocktail – it's cinema perfection.

My husband and I love The Laslett for an overnight stay and escape, which is a fabulous boutique hotel and offers some serious interior design inspiration for those budding designers out there. Before you go, get beautified at Samantha Cuisick – where else can you get your highlights retouched whilst being served complimentary glitter cocktails and popcorn? A true taste of Notting Hill, a place that always goes that one step further.

littlemissnottinghill.com



Although spoilt for choice when it comes to greenery, the Kyoto Garden is something special

There's everything you need in Notting Hill, from high street to boutique

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Heritage JEWELS

Notting Hill local Jorie Grassie turned her love for jewellery into a career, with family and tradition at the heart

Words BETHAN ANDREWS

February is a time of year when many people find themselves stopping by jewellery store windows, browsing rings and eyeing up necklace collections. With Valentine's just around the corner, we thought we'd take some time to look at a new independent jewellery offering from Notting Hill, and one that is offering something that isn't often seen. After all, Portobello has antique jewels in abundance and there are many large merchants offering their wares too, but isn't Valentine's about celebrating something truly unique and something a little different?

The Culachy Collection, named after the Culachy Estate in Fort Augustus, Scotland is the debut fine jewellery collection by founder and designer, Jorie Grassie. Inspired by the beauty of nature and her love for the family estate they own in the Scottish Highlands, Grassie has created a stunning 60 designs and 250-piece collection which is a contemporary interpretation of a revived ancient craft.

Grassie wears the Waterfall Necklace above

There's love in abundance with this story. Not only does it all start with Grassie's passion and hobby for jewellery design (which up until last year was just that, a hobby and now is a successful business), but it leads into her love for nature and the wild outdoors, plus a love story with history as this is a form of jewellery design that she is reviving.

'The Culachy Collection combines my two foremost passions in life; designing fine jewellery and stalking the majestic Highland Red Deer stag as an important part of land management in Scotland on the estate,' says Grassie.

Valentine's is about celebrating something truly unique and a little different

'Each design has a unique identity expressing a feature of The Highlands or a person who is significant to me.'

The origin of deer tusk jewellery dates back as far as 15,000 years ago to the Neolithic Age and Prince Albert was known to have commissioned many

Brooches like these ones are something that Grassie is making more of this year

pieces for his beloved Queen during the Victorian Era in the UK. Now, Grassie is reviving this art, using deer tusks stalked within the grounds of The Culachy and neighbouring estates.

The collection comprises necklaces, bracelets, rings, earrings, brooches, anklets and cufflinks with each piece named after a family member or place special to Grassie – the cufflinks are named after her boys Lachlan, Alasdair, Gregor and Euan. The tusks are transformed into limited edition handcrafted pieces using supreme gold and fine stones from diamonds to mandarin garnets and tanzanites.

Notting Hill is so rich in inspiration that I couldn't live anywhere else

Grassie did a lot of research into the use of deer tusks in jewellery and set about looking at how they could create it. It was 2012 when a gamekeeper told Grassie the story of how the wasted tusks were used for jewellery, and so she made 2016 her goal to launch the range. 'I was fortunate enough to already have a manufacturer and the sources to find the tusks, which are quite hard to come by as they are only from a Red Back deer and, of course, only the male,' she says. 'There are a lot of practical issues that go into the design too, and making sure that all the jewellery works. As the mother of four boys, the pieces need to be practical and wearable.' It means that the jewellery can be worn by anyone, and fitted to suit.

Grassie is a well-travelled woman, and the lessons that she's learned while travelling with her family are clear in her enthusiasm and her love for telling stories. 'I have a huge family, so I wanted to teach my children an appreciation for the great outdoors and the importance of heritage,' she says. 'So we found this estate in Scotland where my husband is from, and it all sort of grew from there.'

Grassie believes that Notting Hill is so rich in inspiration that she couldn't live anywhere else. 'I love London too, so it was important to me that my jewellery was diverse and would be worn by a wide range of clients. One of the best things about living in London is having my place in Scotland, and vice versa,' she says. 'I take inspiration from Notting Hill and then I take it back with me when designing the jewellery. You have your greenery, yet you're so close to the bright lights. There are great restaurants, wonderful boutiques and a community vibe, plus I know all my neighbours.'

Talking of inspiration, how does Grassie go about designing the jewellery? 'Sometimes I work backwards from the stone that I find. My husband brought back a rubinite from Sri Lanka during the Civil War and I remember him telling me so many stories about the stone,' says Grassie. 'If the stone can tell the story too, then it will look great on the person.' A tip from Grassie is that you can always tell a good piece of jewellery from the back of it.

She also works with people, talks to them about their family and what they would like and then creates bespoke pieces accordingly. In the next few months, Grassie wants to go into tie and lapelle pins for men, and do more brooches for women and expand the collection organically. So if you think a loved one deserves something bespoke this month, this could be the idea for you.

See more at jorie.co.uk

The BRUTAL TRUTH

Brutalist architecture has had its fair share of hate over the years, but photographer Simon Phipps is revealing the beauty of it to London

Words BETHAN ANDREWS

For many people, perhaps surprisingly to another few, the appeals of Brutalist architecture are beautiful and not downright ugly as some often suggest. Growing up in Milton Keynes in the 70s, alongside architect parents who'd come to make their contribution to the emerging new town, proved somewhat underwhelming for Simon Phipps. As he says in his new book, there was not very much of the promised utopia of the new town everyone talked of, just countryside, some existing villages and a few housing estates.

But, he tells us, among the fields and hedgerows, he began to be intrigued by the rationalist geometries of the early modernist estates appearing amid the ever increasing grid of roads. 'Each of these new areas of housing was contained within a grid square of dual carriageway, meaning that entry as a pedestrian or cyclist was through an underpass,' explains Phipps.

'The ubiquitous Milton Keynes underpass, composed of cast concrete, was minimalist and forcefully detailed, with walls of ribbed fins creating contrast and texture. These portals were to provide an auspicious frame to the architecture that lay beyond – a threshold of concrete and expressed form that I came to know as Brutalism.'

It was this that led to a fascination with the architectural form of brutality in buildings. Now, Phipps has compiled a photographic collection into the book *Brutal London*, which looks at a side of the capital that has been ignored for too long. 'The raw concrete and imposing mass of Brutalist architecture is undeniably part of the fabric of London's landscape – both visual and social – and part of our urban history,' he says. Momentum is now growing to celebrate, reclaim and preserve buildings which were once allowed to decay. This collection of evocative photography by Phipps casts the city in a new light. Arranged by inner London Borough and with full information on all buildings featured, the book takes in famous examples such as the Trellick Tower, the Brunswick Centre and the Alexandra Road Estate.

'The image provided by Brutalism, architecture of sensual extremes, is often an extraordinary and unfamiliar experience for the city explorer,' says Phipps. 'There can be something thrilling

Trellick Tower is now a respected and famous example of Brutalism

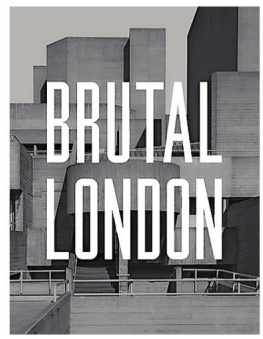
TROUBLED TRELLICK

Standing at 31 storeys, with a 35-storey service tower, Trellick Tower is the standout image of Brutalism. Situated within the otherwise low-rise Cheltenham Estate, the tower is a continuation of Erno Goldfinger's experiments in deck access.

The plan incorporated his famous 'streets in the sky', where walkways allowed inhabitants access to their own front doors. Following Le Corbusier's Unité d'Habitation in Marseille, access corridors serve every three floors. Unlike the Unité, the corridors are on the outside, linked by enclosed sky bridges to the separate lift tower.

The strongly articulated and meticulously finished raw concrete frame has the unique hardness and uncompromising materiality that characterises Goldfinger's buildings. Deep shadows created by the recesses and projections of the expressed architecture move hypnotically across the south elevation, modulated by sun and cloud.

Soon after completion in the early 1970s, lack of management and maintenance, a rise in grossly antisocial behaviour, and an antagonism toward high-rise living led to years of neglect and antipathy. Trellick's reputation plummeted, tabloids dubbed it the 'tower of terror' and it became a possible inspiration for the alienating and dehumanising concrete architecture of JG Ballard's dystopian *High Rise*.



Extracted from Brutal London by Simon Phipps, which is published by September Publishing (£14.99)

about the aggressive and brash vocabulary of concrete, exposed aggregate, hard-edged brick and heavy sectioned timber.'

Phipps wants to show how the potential for artistic and social change is embodied in the uncompromising realisations of Brutalism. 'My hope is that some of the architectural vision that drove the modernist architecture of London shines through the photographs in this book,' he says.

Through extracts from the book, Phipps talks us through the beauty and not the barbarity of Brutalist architecture in Notting Hill – a place with one of the finest examples of the movement.

ARTIST'S PARADISE

The house designed for photographer Christopher Bailey and his opera singer wife Angela Hickey stands on a corner site in Kensington Place, with its main entrance and frontage on Hillgate Street.

The eye-catching tower extruded from the elevation houses an internal spiral staircase that was pushed out from the house to create more space. Heavily dark Staffordshire blue engineering bricks with black mortar joints comprise the building's brickwork, bringing into sharp focus the bold, unadorned and dramatic constituent forms of this remarkable house.

THE RIGHT STRIPES
In an awkward or small space why not go to town and paper the ceiling as well as the walls? It makes for a really striking look.
Carousel stripe wallpaper from the Mariinksy collection, £75 per 10m roll, cole-and-son.com

GEOMETRY LESSONS
Create a modern mural effect by colour blocking geometric shapes in complementary paint shades such as these muted pastels.
Clockwise (from pink): Orchard Pink, Yes Your Honour, Skylon Grey and Graphite, all £39.50 per 2.5 litres matt emulsion, firedearth.com

COLOUR

Story
KARA O'REILLY

COOL CLOAKROOM
The smallest room in the house is a place where you can go to town with playful ideas as designer Niloufar Bakhtiar-Bakhtiari shows here. Contrasting shots of neon in the form of painted plaster frames introduce a light-hearted punch of colour.
Commissions upon request, nbbdesign.com

FRAMER'S ART
Draw attention to any architectural details in a space – think cornices, architraves, door frames and skirting – by picking them out in a dark colour. This also has the effect of 'framing' the room.
Architectural details in Jack Black; walls in French Gray pale and door in Cape Red, £38 per 2.5 litres Absolute Matt Emulsion; £54.50 per 2.5 litres Intelligent Eggshell, all littlegreene.com ›

OF CHOICE

Thinking of embarking on an interiors revamp? Then check out these eye-catching ways to create bold decorative effects

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GO LARGE

Be brave and choose a single print, such as this over-sized botanical design, to make a real statement on a wall.
Peony Gray wallpaper from the Flora Sandbergica collection, £144 per roll (covers 135 x 270cm), sandbergwallpaper.com

SCALE IT UP

Many of the latest wallpaper designs feature bold patterns in large-scale repeats, meaning you don't need more than a few rolls to really ring the changes in a room as this Nina Campbell design shows.
Palmetto wallpaper from the Coromandel collection by Nina Campbell, £72 per 10m roll, osborneandlittle.com

HIDDEN DEPTHS

Interior designer Amelia Carter used a patterned wallpaper to add an unexpected shot of colour when this hidden tambour cupboard was opened for use.
Commissions upon request, ameliacarter.com

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Well crafted
If you are interested in contemporary craft – and, if not, why not? – then Collect is the fair to visit. Not only will you get an insight into the current craft scene worldwide (there are nearly 40 specialist galleries representing disciplines as varied as ceramics, bookbinding and silversmithing), but will be seriously tempted to invest in a piece or two. Add to that the fact that it is returning to the airy, light-filled surroundings of the Saatchi Gallery and taking up all three floors, means it is even bigger and better than before.
2-6 February, Saatchi Gallery, Duke of York's HQ, King's Road SW3 4RY; collect17.org.uk

SITTING COMFORTABLY?

I have a bit of a bias towards this chair as I am a bibliophile, but when I met its maker, James Baldwin, I was engaged by his enthusiasm. His Bookthrone came about when he was working with young offenders on finding jobs post-detention. British made, it stores 300 books. From £1,097 to order; baldwinjames.co.uk

HOMES *NOTEBOOK*

Kara O'Reilly rounds up the latest in interiors

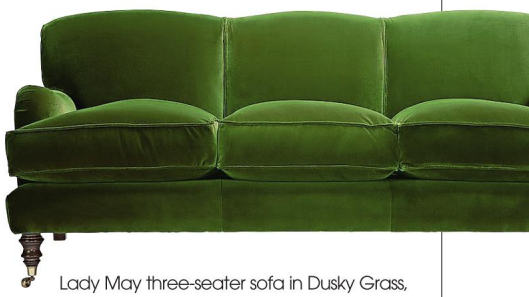
Ooh la la

Not just a comprehensive source for beds, Feather & Black has become a go-to for furniture for all the family. It has recently launched a new twist on one of its best-selling ranges, the French-inspired Sienna collection. Now available in weathered grey oak, the new finish gives the timeless hard-carved frames an on-trend update that perfectly complements the luxe feel of the range.
See more at featherandblack.com

Mini Trend
Green Velvet Upholstery

Scott armchair in grass velvet, £599, made.com

Emerald velvet ottoman, £395, oliverbonas.com



Lady May three-seater sofa in Dusky Grass, from £1,989, sofaworkshop.com

The property is entirely unique inside, thanks to the bespoke wooden fittings

MAIDA BEAUTY

We find out about the interior designer who turned this Maida Vale property into a unique and family friendly space

Words BETHAN ANDREWS

The kitchen has floor to ceiling doors that open out onto the large communal gardens

Can you start by telling me a little bit about yourself, how you came to be in your line of work? I founded Marta Nowicka & Co in 2003, which is an award-winning interior architectural, concept-led studio creating design solutions for commercial and residential spaces. With over 25 years of experience in design, I've worked with a number of high profile clients.

Talk us through the types of projects that you do? I've never liked to be pigeonholed – so MN&Co work on leisure, workspaces and residential projects. Recent projects include a former St Johns Ambulance headquarters. I've also worked on Calvin Street – a live-work space for two young British artists in Shoreditch, spread across four floors inspired by the open plan minimalist interiors of Donald Judd's 101 Spring Street studio and residence in New York, and the refurbishment of VFX Soho studio, Cherry Cherry, creating 'The Longest Bar in Noho.'

How did you come to be working on this particular project in Maida Vale? Debi Ani, owner of luxury brand consultancy Oro Design, bought this gem located in the heart of Maida Vale in the 80s. Her then marriage to film director Henrique Goldman of Mango Films and the maturing of their son Caio, who is now eight years old, placed their 80 sqm apartment under a large amount of spatial strain! Ani was reluctant to move from her 'princess house', so wanted us to create space from no space, transforming it into a family home, which promises everything.

What was the biggest aspect of the project? We flipped the layout of the ground floor apartment around and put the bedrooms and bathrooms in the front of the apartment and the living space at the back, linking the living space to the communal gardens and balcony. This involved major demolition of structural walls, partitions and external walls to create internal space and new window openings. The planners would not allow mezzanines in the double height spaces due to planning limitations of listed buildings, so we made use of the ›

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original high ceilings by creating a vertical piece of furniture in each bedroom – building two fret cut floor to ceiling forms.

In the master bedroom, the sleeping space is located upstairs surrounded by a beautifully intricate, patterned wood carving design, and flush cupboards for storage space are placed underneath. The same design applies to Caio's bedroom mezzanine, forming a playful, cozy den behind the surrounding wardrobes and the play area upstairs.

What was the property like before? The ground floor apartment had the living/ kitchen area at the front in a double height space and the bedroom, bathroom, study, wardrobes and shower room in a warren of small rooms off a corridor at the back. It was dark and confined due to the corridors and lack of windows.

Can you talk us through the process and the project a little? Ani first suggested that she would like to totally remodel her flat – so I popped over to chat it through with her. While we were talking, I had my sketch book on the table and started planning the space. Immediately, it was obvious to me to flip the space around – so have the living area at the rear, adjacent to the huge gardens so that they could open full height doors and their son could run in and out while the parents keep one eye on him.

What was one of the most rewarding and challenging parts of the project? By removing several walls and making new large windows and doors, we liberated so much space that the flat grew in scale within the existing boundary, which was really great. The building process was long though, as we had to remove the main supporting wall of the five-storey house. We had several partition walls to obtain and many issues, neighbour disputes and a complex build.

Finally, what is it about the architecture in this part of London that you love so much? My design inspirations come from various sources whether it is art, cities or sculpture. I find inspiration in everything; from factory rooftops, Bernard Leach to derelict buildings. The fusion of art and the urban city is very prevalent in the MN&Co ethos and can be seen in this part of London too.

Although traditional from the exterior, the property is full of mod-cons

The windows add a touch of modernity to the typical exterior, left

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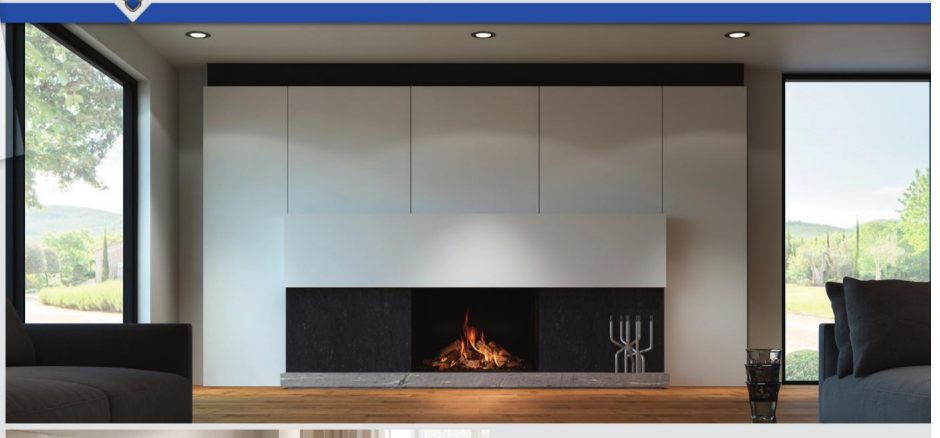

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TOM PARKER BOWLES

Why the London boozer is still flying high

It started with a bird. An eagle to be precise, The Eagle in Farringdon Road, opened in January 1991 by Michael Belben and David Eyre. A pub, sure, but not just your bog standard, sticky carpeted, fag-breathed boozer, rather a place you could get food with your pint, proper tucker, cooked up in a tiny kitchen. Nothing fancy, though, rather a steak sandwich, soup and casserole, cooked in the oven in the flat next door. And so the gastro pub was born.

More than two decades later and the concept has been stretched to snapping point. You can hardly move for the damned things, the city infected with a sorry canker of second rate restaurants, hiding in the shells of old pubs, the draught beers and bars long gone. Over sweet pulled pork sliders may have replaced dreary lamb shanks and sullen braised pork, but in many cases, the disconsolate ping of the microwave has long replaced the clatter of pan on hob.

But as ever in this great eating city, there is hope and salvation around every corner. Real pubs, serving good beer, who also happen to cook up some rather serious grub. Like The Harwood Arms in Fulham, co-owned by Brett Graham (of legendary Ledbury fame) and Mike Robinson. They have a Michelin star, but don't let that put you off. Game plays a big role, and the food is robust, yet quietly sublime. Don't miss their legendary Scotch eggs. Staying west and one of my favourite locals, The Anglesea Arms in Hammersmith. Well kept beer, a decent wine list and wonderful food. The ragu alla Bolognese is sublime. Moving into South Kensington, The Hour Glass has had a much needed revamp and very fine it is too. You can't go wrong with a pint of Butcombe's and flat iron steak.

South of the river, there's the ever-brilliant Anchor and Hope, a true British pioneer. On Sunday lunch, you get a vast joint of meat to share. Hooray. And The Camberwell Arms, from the same team, is another cracker. Divine fish soup, and devilled rabbit offal too. Moving across to Wandsworth, The Earl Spencer has a range of beautifully kept beer, and some admirable cooking too.

Out east The Gun, in Coldharbour, Docklands (the first in Tom and Ed Martin's deeply respectable group of pubs, and don't miss The Jugged Hare in EC1 and The Botanist in Broadgate Circle either), sits pretty on the river and keeps the cooking standards suitably high. The Marksman, on Hackney Road, is equally excellent. Up north, The Drapers Arms is eternally joyous: good ingredients, well cooked. The same as you'll find at the brilliant Bull and Last, with roasts that taste as good as home, as well as fried buttermilk chicken to make the tastebuds swoon. While Parlour, in Kensal Rise, has the hugely talented Jesse Dunford Wood at the helm. Oh, and don't forget The Eagle, still flying high. The original gastro pub – and still one of the best.

As ever in this great eating city, there is hope and salvation

After a revamp, The Hour Glass is now ideal for a pint and top notch food

The LOCK PARTY

Expect a party atmosphere and constant vibrancy in the new food destination for Paddington this year

Words ALEX LARMAN

It seems almost like yesterday that Paddington was a desert when it came to good places to eat and drink; Sheldon Square was empty (the estimable Pearl Liang aside) of top-notch restaurants, the station offered nothing and the streets around it were a pitiful assembly of inedible culinary tragedy.

How times change. Now, it's one of the buzziest and most exciting areas in west London, and the opening of the new bar and restaurant Lockhouse Paddington should do a good deal to keep its reputation very much going.

We caught up recently with the owners and founders of Lockhouse, Dan Shotton and Mark Draper, about what their grand plans for the future are. As Shotton puts it, when asked why they opened Lockhouse: 'We wanted to create a relaxed venue that centred on offering the best street food inspired dishes along with some of the best craft beers on the market – and was fun to hang out.'

From first impressions, Lockhouse definitely ticks the boxes on all these fronts. And why Paddington? 'The amount of new development taking place in Paddington is monumental, and the area is destined to become a new, vibrant central London hub,' says Draper. 'It's great to be part of this evolution from the start and to create a brand that has the same ambitions for long-term growth.'

One of the ways in which the brand is going to be developed is in the burgers, which have aspirations to be some of London's best. But what'll make them stand out? Draper tells me that it's all in the beef. 'We only use prime, aged Scottish beef and each of our burgers are hand pressed for the best consistency,' he says. 'We've also developed our own signature Lockhouse relish and have a heap of different toppings on the menu to suit all tastes.'

And craft beer fans are going to be very happy as well, as there's a wall of beers. 'We're both huge fans of craft beer – both on tap and by the bottle, and Lockhouse will be a showcase of the best out there,' says Draper. 'We'll have around 20 beers on tap at any one time – both UK and international brews, and a good selection of lesser-known brands. The craft beer movement in the UK is an incredibly exciting one to be involved

There is a huge focus on craft beers and they have developed their own signature Lockhouse relish for the burgers

Mark Draper and Dan Shotton want Lockhouse to suit all tastes and be a fun place to hang out too

with and it's still evolving. We can't wait to present our well-selected range to the people of Paddington.'

Obviously, 2017 promises to be a big year for the emerging restaurant. Shotton notes that: 'Whilst we are looking at expanding the Lockhouse brand into new areas in the future, the start of 2017 is all about getting this site up, running and established. We're always on the lookout for potential new sites, and as business owners are eager to continue our expansion plans both in central London and the wider area.'

To this end, the craft beers and eclectic wine list are going to be matched by an impressive selection of cocktails; Shotton tells me that they're 'going all out' with their list, and singles out a couple of signature ones, including the Lockhouse Bloody Mary and The Lock Party – featuring a very on brand beer top and Lock Stock, their mescal and papaya blended take on a classic margarita. It promises to be a very merry occasion.

2017 promises to be a very big year for the emerging restaurant

Both of them come from an established background in hospitality, and have run a range of successful bars and pubs for much of the last decade. Nonetheless, it's a challenge, albeit one that both are happy to embrace. As Draper says: 'One of the biggest perks of setting up your own hospitality business is having to regularly check out the competition and keep abreast of new and emerging trends – it's an area of our jobs that we take very seriously!

'London is a melting pot of great new and emerging food and drinks brands and I think the eclectic mix of restaurants available any night of the week is enough to fuel anyone interested in developing a successful dining venture. We also take a lot of inspiration from overseas. New York delis and diners have had a huge influence in our development of Lockhouse, along with the scale to which the craft beer scene in the States has grown and dramatically inspired the palates and preferences of UK consumers.'

It all bodes exceptionally well for the inhabitants of W2 – to say nothing of the hordes of nearby commuters – having a stylish, fun and interesting place on their doorstep, which will hopefully fill a substantial gap in the marketplace. 'It's an all-day hangout offering well-crafted food and drink – done better,' finishes Shotton. Whatever happens, we can't wait to make it one of the most appealing and interesting local hang-outs, and those burgers sound unmissably delicious.

31-33 Merchant Square W2 1AZ; 020 7706 4253; lockhouselondon.com

Good mood FOOD

Writer and mental health campaigner, Rachel Kelly, is keen to show people how to achieve a happy kitchen and a happy mood with her new book

Words RACHEL KELLY

Rachel Kelly, left, and nutritional therapist, Alice Mackintosh, right, in the kitchen

Turmeric is a great way to stay healthy naturally and can even be made into a latte

Nearly a decade ago, I took our then ten-year-old son George to see a nutritionist about his persistent eczema at a clinic on Holland Park Avenue. I was thrilled when his scaly red skin healed within a few weeks of simply changing his diet.

But it wasn't until several years later that I wondered if nutrition could help my own longstanding battle with anxiety and depression, which in the past had seen me hospitalised. While the maxim 'Let food be thy medicine' has long applied to physical illnesses, might it not also apply to maladies of the mind?

I began to experiment, noting which foods made me feel calm, which helped me sleep, and which cheered me up. Some ideas were thanks to my GP. At a routine check up to see how I was dealing with my anxiety, she told me there was compelling evidence about the links between mood and food. She wrote down a list of 'happy foods' which included green leafy vegetables, dark chocolate and oily fish.

I began to adopt a healthier diet and was struck by the difference food was making to my mood. I became more certain that it was time to wind back the harm of too much medicine and prescribe a little more food. But I was confused. There was so much conflicting advice, and I felt it was time to further my knowledge.

Enter Alice Mackintosh, a nutritional therapist who at the time worked for a reputable nutritional clinic on London's prestigious Harley Street with a degree in both Nutritional Therapy and Biomedical Science.

There is compelling evidence about the links between moods and different food

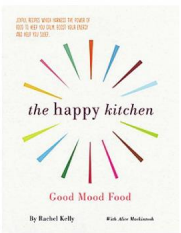
With Alice's help, and advice from other doctors, dieticians and indeed psychiatrists, I began to completely overhaul my diet. Alice gave me practical tools in the form of meal planners, and we began to develop recipes for my symptoms. Our conversations and experiments led to our book *The Happy Kitchen: Good Mood Food*. I share in detail what I have learnt about eating for happiness, and how to become more energised, cheerier, less anxious, clearer thinking, more balanced and a better sleeper by following a happy diet, and include the recipes which put the theory into practice.

Now what I eat is an important part of my holistic approach to overcoming anxiety and depression. I've also benefitted from exercising more, using mindful breathing techniques, and the healing power of poetry: all key parts of the toolkit I now rely on to ensure good mental health. Who wouldn't try and rely on themselves if at all possible – though I'm the first to recognise for those suffering severe mental illness this isn't an option.

Many doctors now agree with this approach. After years in which doctors looked to medication as the sole answer to mental illness, now there is a growing sense that drugs are only one small part of the solution.

Just as 'lifestyle interventions' are now seen as crucial to managing chronic illnesses such as diabetes and some heart conditions, a similar approach is beginning to be applied to depression and anxiety.

For me – and our boy George who is now 19 – this has led to happy kitchen. I hope it will make your kitchen happy too.



Rachel Kelly is a writer and mental health campaigner; *The Happy Kitchen: Good Mood Food* is out now and published by Short Books £14.99; For more info visit rachel-kelly.net

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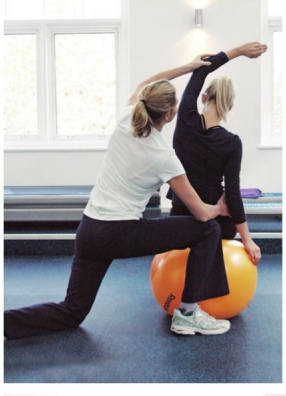

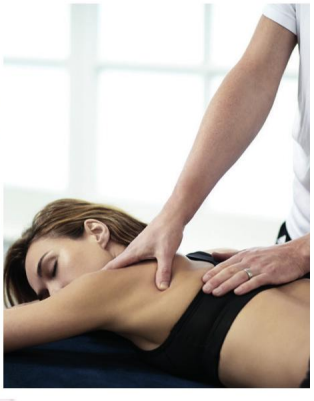

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#MOVE BETTER

ten.co.uk

PHOTO: GIANLUCA PANTALEO; HAIR : TAYLOR TAYLOR LONDON; MAKE UP: EOIN WHELAN; MODELS: LENI'S MODEL MANAGEMENT

From total colour change to a natural balayage, the salon will keep your hair looking healthy

READER OFFER

Book any colour appointment for January or February 2017 and receive a complimentary Olaplex® treatment worth at least £35. Please quote ResPlex at the time of booking.

Offer only applies to Taylor Taylor London, Portobello Road.

New Year, new hair

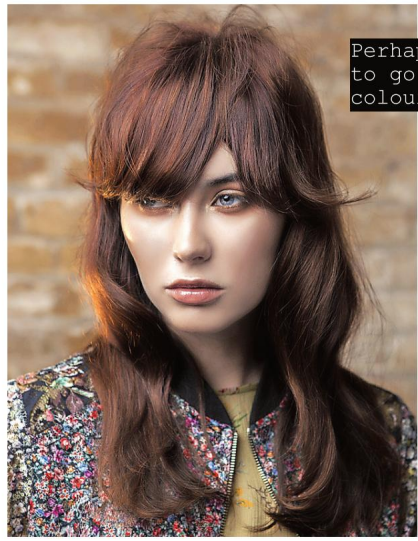
The New Year has brought on a want for change, so why not consider a new hair regime with Taylor Taylor London?

If you're attempting to lead a healthier lifestyle this year then a great way to get started is to think about how you feel from the outside as well as the in – that way, you ooze confidence, and motivation increases. What better place to start than with your hair?

No matter what your length, this season's hair is all about achieving that perfectly imperfect style with a relaxed lived-in look created by using grown out layers, full fringes and even shadowed roots. The key to these effortless, yet polished looks, is to make sure they are paired with exceptionally shiny, healthy hair with the use of personalised treatments and intelligent colour techniques.

Taylor Taylor London will tell you that there is no point in having a great colour, if the hair isn't shiny and looked after. In fact, from enhancing your natural hair tone with a signature balayage through to a complete colour and style change, the use of modern colours and technology can actually improve the health of your hair making it look thicker, stronger and glossier.

The experts at Taylor Taylor London exclusively use a specialist treatment called Olaplex®, which helps rebuild the bonds in your hair that become broken over time through heat styling and any chemical processing. With a focus on regenerating the strength, structure and integrity of your hair Olaplex helps maintain the health of your hair no matter how many times you change your colour or style.



Perhaps this is the year to go for a complete colour and style change?

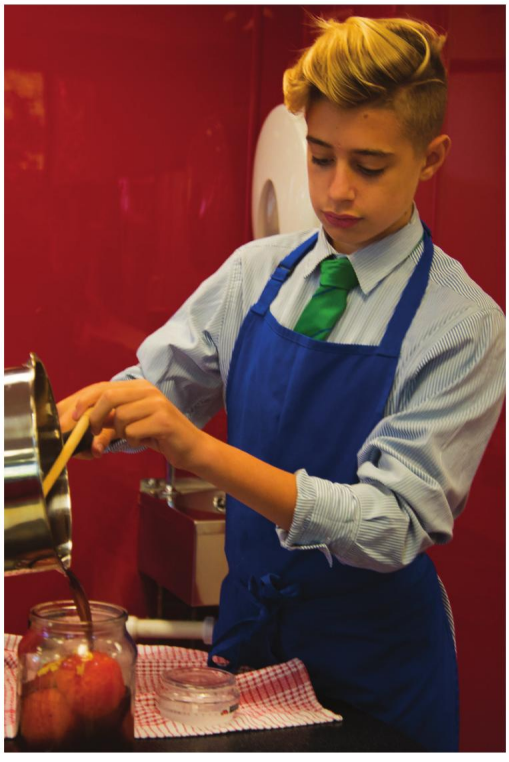
Taylor Taylor London is widely recognised as one of the best hair salons in London

Taylor Taylor London is widely recognised as one of the best hair salons in London, having just won an award for the Best London Salon in *Womens Health* and having also won Best Salon at The London Lifestyle Awards a total of three times in the last four years. Their team of stylists and colour technicians are some of the top creative talents in the world and it's a great place to ensure your hair and colour is as good as it can ever be.

Pop into their Portobello Road salon and take a seat at the brass topped cocktail bar while you have your complimentary colour consultation. Colour prices start at just £59.

Portobello Road W10 5TD; 020 8960 8569; taylortaylorlondon.com

DISCOVERMORE



Embracing an innovative, modern approach whilst keeping traditional values at its core, Kew House School takes an exciting stance on 21st century education. With state-of-the-art facilities, a broad curriculum and excellent pastoral care, Kew House is a place where you would want to be – a place of learning and discovery, laughter and friendship.

Currently recruiting into the Sixth Form with a new Sixth Form Centre opening in 2017.

Open Days

January 13th (9.15am)

January 17th (7pm) - 6th Form Only

January 31st (9.15am)

February 21st (9.15am)

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GARDENER SCHOOLS GROUP

BEST PRACTICE

A new year means students all over London will be starting to prepare for forthcoming exams. Help is at hand...

Words BELLA AUDSLEY

AHEAD OF AN EXAM

Visualisation
This is a powerful psychological technique that can be used to enhance positive feelings and diminish the negative ones. This strategy is employed for many purposes, particularly with sports players and performers who are working towards a specific goal. In the context of exams, you can imagine a positive outcome where you see yourself achieving success.

Practice, practice, practice
Getting used to exam technique is an invaluable way to prepare for exams. Managing your time effectively and writing for long periods under timed conditions are skills that require training. Handwriting requires you to use muscles and, if not properly exercised, can tire easily. You want to be able to focus on answering the questions, not your hand cramping! One of the most important areas to focus on is making sure you practice your timings and when to move on to new sections of an exam.

Facing fears
It can be helpful to confront some of your concerns about the exam by making a spider diagram that identifies a solution for each fear or worry.

The power of sleep
A good night's sleep before the exam is essential, however it is also important to establish a sensible pattern and routine in the lead up to the exam. On average, children and teenagers aged between seven and 18 years of age require 9-10 hours sleep a night.

Bring the necessary materials
Having your pencil case and bag packed before going to bed avoids panic the next day and allows you more time for a calm breakfast.

DAY OF THE EXAM

Sunny side up
A healthy breakfast helps to set students up for success. Last year, an Australian survey of teachers revealed that skipping breakfast can cause students to lose two hours of learning a day due to the lack of concentration. Porridge is a hearty and nutritious option in winter. Try to include some protein in there as well: eggs are a fantastic way to start the day.

Manage your time
Keeping a watchful eye on the clock will allow you to ensure that you have enough time to answer all the questions.

Read each question as carefully as possible
Students can often miss out on marks because they have overlooked key details or misread instructions. It is a good idea to highlight or underline key words in the question.

And breathe
Mindfulness can provide students with the tools to reduce anxiety and improve concentration through simple breathing and meditation exercises.

Good luck!

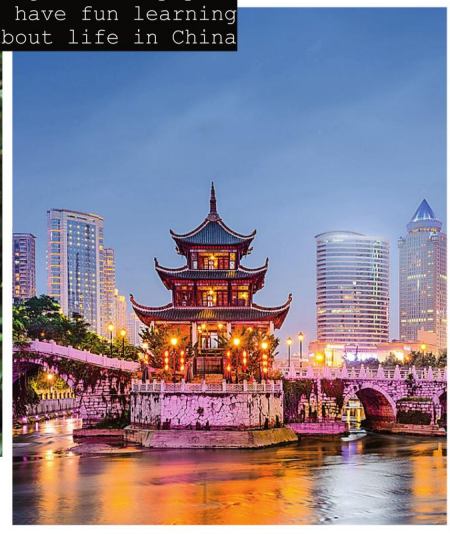
Bella Audsley is part of the Enjoy Education team, specialists in bespoke exam preparation. For more visit enjoyeducation.co.uk or call 020 7352 8800

DOUBLE STANDARDS

Kensington Wade will be the first of its kind, a dual language English/ Chinese prep school, geared at setting our children up for the future

Words MARK KEBBLE

Kensington Wade pupils will have fun learning about life in China



It's just like riding a bike. So the saying goes when we attempt to pick something up that we were proficient in many years ago – something that Professor Hugo de Burgh can relate to. 'I was bilingual in Turkish around three or four years of age as my mother was teaching English in Cyprus and we were friends with a lot of Turkish people, but it was only as an adult I realised this. I worked in Turkey for six months and suddenly realised I could speak Turkish! When you have it as a little child, it never leaves you.'

It's one of the reasons why de Burgh has teamed up with the founder and principal of the Cothill Trust, Adrian Richardson, to bring us Kensington Wade, an independent pre-prep and prep school offering an immersive bilingual education from the ages of three to 11, due to open in September 2017. The focus is on the rather complex to learn Chinese language. 'Chinese is demanding, certainly for adults, but younger children learn very quickly,' de Burgh says. 'There is quite a lot of academic research now that children, when they are very young, can soak up the most amazing amount of knowledge and skills. To be able to use 3,000 Chinese ideograms, as they don't have an alphabet, is very stretching for the mind – but for little children it's great fun as much as anything else.'

De Burgh explains that the school is the result of an idea he had seven years ago, a desire to open a school in the belief that future generations of British opinion formers and decision makers will benefit greatly from learning Chinese at an early age, and therefore be able to operate in a world in which the Chinese will continue to have a strong influence on business, politics and international affairs – and Kensington was the perfect place for this. 'We commissioned market research from one of the leading educational consultancies to find out where would be the best place for this dual language school and they said Kensington for two reasons. One was down to the fact more parents here send children to independent schools than anywhere else in the UK; and two, there are more two nationality families here than anywhere else in the UK.'

The school, which has just announced that Jo Wallace will be joining as Headmistress, will be very much split down the middle. 'If you walked into the nursery, you would think it looks like an English nursery,' de Burgh says on what to expect. 'But then the children, for half a day, will go into the Chinese nursery and everything will be in Chinese, a total immersion system.

'Essentially we will be preparing the children in the same way as well established prep schools,' de Burgh adds, 'to go on to the top English secondary schools.' It sounds like the ride of a lifetime.

205 Warwick Road W14 8PU; 020 3096 2888; kensingtonwade.com

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MAKING THE GRADE

The furnished Holland Park Villa now available to let

This is a newly refurbished three bedroom apartment on the ground and lower ground floors of a Grade II listed Holland Park Villa. The property has high ceilings, a double reception room, fully fitted eat-in kitchen, three en-suite bathrooms, a wonderfully secluded private patio and has an EPC B rating.

Holland Park, W11, available at £3,750 per week (fees apply) with Jackson-Stops & Staff; 020 7727 5222

Arundel Gardens, Notting Hill, W11

£850 per week* Furnished

A beautifully refurbished two bedroom apartment situated in a striking stucco fronted period building in the heart of Notting Hill.

974 sq ft (90.5 sq m)
Two bedrooms | Two bathrooms | One reception room

Notting Hill 020 7221 1111
nottinghill@struttandparker.com

Albert Place, Kensington, W8

£1,500 per week* Unfurnished

A fabulous and unique two bedroom flat which has been completely refurbished throughout, in this wonderful location just south of Kensington Gardens.

1,678 sq ft (155.92 sq m)
Reception room/kitchen | Master bedroom with en suite bathroom | Second double bedroom | Cloakroom | Patios

Kensington 020 7938 3866
kensington.lettings@struttandparker.com

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* The following Tenant Charges may apply prior to tenancy commencement: Tenancy Agreement £222 (inc VAT) Credit References per application £54 (inc VAT).
All advertised prices are excluded of utility and other associated services.

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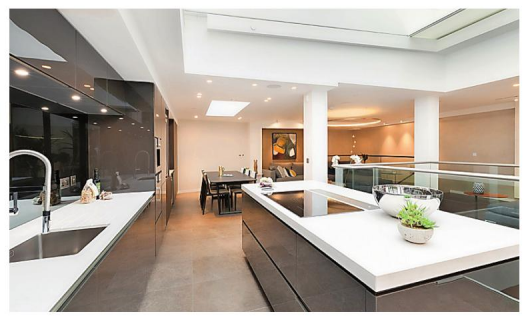
54 My dream home – A stunning penthouse close to St James's Park

64 Word from – Here's why we are looking forward to a much more stable year in the property market

In a dynamic city like London, the architecture is constantly changing – discover in this month's news pages how the capital's homes have developed over the past century, it makes fascinating reading. Over a somewhat shorter period (the past five years) as Property Editor, I have followed the patterns of the London residential scene with great interest. This issue will be my last but I can guarantee the city's property market will continue to enthral me for a long time to come.

Karen

Karen Tait, Property Editor



Editor's pick: With contemporary state-of the-art styling throughout, this detached, five-bedroom townhouse on Hereford Road, W2, was conceived by award-winning architects Gebler Tooth: £8,500,000 (Douglas & Gordon, 020 3733 5660)

Strutt & Parker, London's premier estate agents. Now near the museums.

Whether you're buying, selling, renting or letting, head for our new South Kensington office at 90 Old Brompton Road. You'll be there in two shakes of a T.Rex's tail.

Hot property

Developer Alchemi Group, working with Openstudio Architects, has secured planning approval for the residential restoration of Westminster Fire Station. The Grade II listed building in Victoria will be part of a mixed-use development comprising two buildings and providing 17 luxury apartments, a restaurant and a refurbished garden courtyard. The £13.5m restoration includes the demolition of the modern rear building and its replacement with a hand-made brick residential building that has been carefully designed to complement the grandeur and heritage of the listed front building. Remaining original period features will be refurbished throughout. The former fire station was built in 1906 from red brick with a Portland stone base typical of the period; it was decommissioned in January 2014. A provisional completion date has been set for October 2018.

alchemigroup.com

Making an entrance

London Square has unveiled a magnificently restored marble hall as the grand entrance at The Star and Garter, Richmond Hill – one of the capital's most historic landmarks where the view sweeping down over the Thames is considered so beautiful it is the only one in England protected by an Act of Parliament.

The latest launch of apartments includes the penthouse collection (prices from £2.95m), offering panoramas of the River Thames and 2,500 acres of Richmond Park, London's largest Royal Park.

The development offers a lifestyle akin to a boutique hotel or private club, from the impressive marble hall and grand staircase to the listed Italianate gardens, and concierge service from Harrods. Meanwhile, the stunning King's Room, with its original parquet flooring, ornate mouldings and fireplaces, is now an opulent spa, pool and fitness suite.

starandgarter.london

PROPERTY *NEWS*

Celebrating London's architectural heritage

Past and present

A fascinating insight into how London's housing has evolved through the ages has been revealed with Knight Frank's latest report. Using housing data from the past 120 years, the interactive online tool brings to life the housing history of 14 of the capital's most notable areas, from central hotspots like Kensington and Chelsea, Wandsworth and Lambeth to outlying districts such as Harrow and Barking and Dagenham. They showcase the dramatic changes in the particular boroughs, while also highlighting their significance to the overall landscape of London's housing. You can discover the distinctive architectural styles that have characterised the individual boroughs along with fascinating facts – did you know, for instance, that Westminster's Eyre Street was reportedly the first part of London, and indeed any other town, to abandon the terrace house in favour of the semi-detached villa?

Find out more at knightfrank.co.uk/residential/age-of-housing-stock-in-london

Greville Place, St John's Wood, on the market with Knight Frank

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HIP *to be* SQUARE

Londoners are set to benefit from new public spaces across the capital

Words FIONA BRANDHORST

It seems that every corner of the capital is under construction as a host of impressive development schemes continue to launch this year creating new squares, gardens and plazas. And we can all share in their success as many include public realm initiatives from breakout gardens to commissioned artwork set to benefit not only the new residents, but also existing neighbours and those working nearby.

Developed by Berkeley Homes and designed by Foster+Partners, South Quay Plaza at the heart of Canary Wharf is set to be one of the UK's tallest residential schemes and will include a 68 storey tower and smaller 36 storey tower offering 888 properties together with cafés, shops and restaurants. The development's minimal footprint will open up over 1.6 acres of public space including a new dockside promenade and pocket park. The 56th floor residents' club lounge is complete with a bar, screening room, business lounge and an enormous terrace with outside bar and dining facilities. The first phase of one, two and three bedroom homes is expected to be completed in 2020 when price growth is forecast to reach 24%. Prices start from £675,000.

Barratt London's Aldgate Place will create 465 one, two and three-bedroom apartments and three and four-bedroom duplexes across four residential towers. Most homes have a private balcony or winter garden with views across the capital and over 50% of the development's footprint is dedicated to landscaped gardens and pedestrian streets, along with a four-star hotel, cafés, restaurants and shops.

'Aldgate Place will make the most of the vast untapped potential of the Whitechapel area,' says Gary Patrick, Regional Sales Director, Barratt London. 'We've seen considerable interest from owner occupiers, who want to live close to their work as well as the local entertainment cores of East London, and investors that are drawn to the area due to the capital growth Aldgate is expected to achieve.' Crossrail's arrival in 2018 has been tipped to support investment predictions as well as the area's ongoing regeneration. The three bedroom penthouse is priced at £2,550,000.

In ever popular Islington, over 60% of apartments have been sold at Islington Square, designed by award-winning architect Piers Gough of CZWG Architects. The combination of the restored former Edwardian post office buildings and new build studio, one, two and three bedroom homes are designed around a new central public boulevard. Apartments are for sale with Beauchamp Estates, Knight Frank and Savills, with prices starting from £715,000.

Down at Southbank Place facing the popular Jubilee Gardens, Belvedere Gardens will have stunning river views

Clockwise from bottom left: Islington Square will create a new public boulevard; the view from Belvedere Gardens; and South Quay Plaza will be one of the UK's tallest residential schemes

of the Houses of Parliament and the London Eye. Developed by Canary Wharf Group and Qatari Diar, the 97 one, two and three bedroom apartments are split over 20 levels, including one three-bedroom duplex and two penthouses. Prices start from £1,050,000.

Residents will have access to a private lounge, leading to an opulent outdoor terrace, providing an intimate space for social gatherings and business meetings, as well as space for residents to entertain and relax. The exclusive health club, designed by one of London's leading interior designers Goddard Littlefair, includes a gym, sauna and a stunning relaxation lounge.

Sir George Iacobescu, Chairman and CEO Canary Wharf Group, believes that the scheme will become a highly desirable place to live. 'Being close to the river and in the centre of London's cultural hub, the design and outstanding quality of Belvedere Gardens will not only promote a sense of wellbeing, it will combine the vibrant community with the creation of wonderful social spaces and intelligently designed gardens.'

Many public realm initiatives are set to benefit new residents and workers

Taking inspiration from the lawns and majestic trees of nearby Lincoln's Inn Fields, London's largest residential square, landscape architect Gustafson Porter, known for the Princess of Wales memorial in Hyde Park, has created a courtyard garden at the heart of a new residential development Lincoln Square by Lodha UK.

Comprising four North, East, South and West wings each with ten storeys, many of the studio and one to four bedroom apartments and penthouses have views of iconic London buildings including the Royal Courts of Justice and London School of Economics, and also has access to a 24-hour five star concierge.

Abhishek Lodha, Managing Director, Lodha Group, comments: 'Lincoln Square is a unique development that befits the area's impressive heritage. Through careful attention to detail and a focus on bringing residents together we hope to create a visionary scheme and community.' Prices range between £950,000 and £10m on the market with Knight Frank and CBRE.

£595,000 Share of Freehold

A well-presented 1 bedroom apartment on Kensington Park Road, Notting Hill, W11. This charming property offers a bright reception room, kitchen, double bedroom with en-suite bathroom and a guest cloakroom.

Energy Efficiency Rating - D68

Hyde Park 020 7100 4343

1 1

£875,000 Leasehold

OnTheMarket.com

A bright and spacious apartment on Westbourne Grove Terrace, Westbourne Grove, W2 boasting a bright reception room, fully fitted eat-in kitchen, 2 bedrooms and a shower room.

Energy Efficiency Rating - C72

Hyde Park 020 7100 4343

2 1

£1,150,000 Leasehold

A newly refurbished 3 bedroom apartment on Queensborough Mews, Bayswater, W2 offering a large reception room, kitchen, principal bedroom with en-suite bathroom and a south west facing balcony.

Energy Efficiency Rating - C78

Hyde Park 020 7100 4343

3 2

£1,175,000 Freehold

Set behind a gated entrance on Bravington Mews, Little Venice, W9 is a beautifully designed newly built 3 bedroom mews house with an allocated parking space and a terrace.

Energy Efficiency Rating - B84

Little Venice 020 7289 6666

3 2

£1,995,000 Freehold

A modern and spacious mews house on Browning Close, Little Venice, W9 boasting a generous reception room, fully fitted kitchen, 5 bedrooms, a private south facing patio garden and off street parking.

Energy Efficiency Rating - G16

Little Venice 020 7289 6666

5 3

£2,000,000 Leasehold

A tastefully designed apartment on Craven Hill Gardens, Bayswater, W2 boasting slick shadow lighting in the reception room, bespoke fitted wardrobes, lime-washed wood flooring and a designer bathroom.

Energy Efficiency Rating - E42

Hyde Park 020 7100 4343

2 2

£450* p/w Furnished (£1,950 p/m)

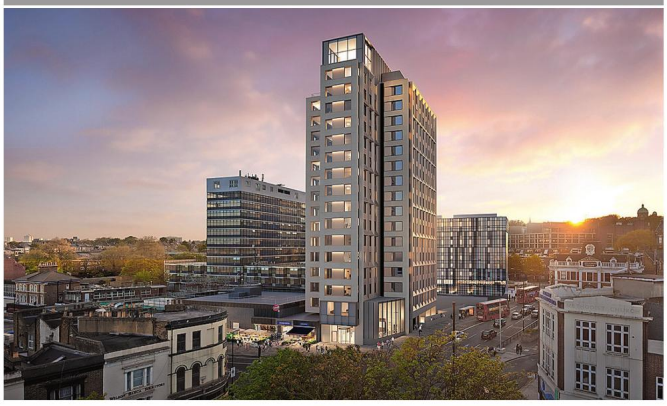
A unique and spacious 1 bedroom mews apartment in Lancaster Mews, Paddington, W2 offering an open plan kitchen/reception room, fully fitted kitchen, double bedroom and a large en-suite bathroom.

Energy Efficiency Rating - E49

Hyde Park 020 7100 6868

1 1

£460-£850* p/w Furnished (£1,993-£3,683 p/m)



A superb collection of interior designed apartments in Vantage Point, Archway, N19. Featuring stunning apartments, from stylish suites, 1 and 2 beds, along with a spectacular range of shared social spaces.

Energy Efficiency Rating - B81 - C80

Hyde Park 020 7100 6868

2 1

£725* p/w Un / Furnished (£3,141 p/m)

A bright 2 bedroom apartment situated on Brook Mews North, Hyde Park, W2 offered in excellent condition, boasting a spacious reception/dining room, fully fitted kitchen, second bathroom and secure parking.

Energy Efficiency Rating - C80

Hyde Park 020 7100 6868

2 2

£725* p/w Furnished (£3,141 p/m)

A spacious 2 double bedroom apartment situated on Chepstow Place, Notting Hill, W2. This bright and airy apartment offers a large reception room opening onto a private terrace with fantastic views.

Energy Efficiency Rating - D65

Hyde Park 020 7100 6868

2 1

£995* p/w Unfurnished (£4,312 pm)

An impressive apartment on Randolph Avenue, Maida Vale, W9 comprising a spacious reception/dining room, fully fitted kitchen, 2 balconies with stairs leading onto the communal gardens and private entrance.

Energy Efficiency Rating - D60

Little Venice 020 7289 6633

4 2

£1,100* p/w Unfurnished (£4,767 pm)

A charming apartment on Warwick Avenue, Maida Vale, W9 boasting a spacious reception/dining room, separate fully fitted kitchen, en-suite bathroom, its own private entrance and off street parking for 2 cars.

Energy Efficiency Rating - D66

Little Venice 020 7289 6633

3 2

*Set fees apply for all tenancies to include £180.00 (inc VAT) Tenancy Agreement Fee per tenancy, £48.00 (inc VAT) Reference Fee per Tenant/Guarantor. Other fees apply, please visit www.g-h.co.uk to see a full list of fees and charges or ask a member of the team.

MY DREAM HOME

A stunning penthouse in the perfect location

The open plan kitchen and dining area flow seamlessly out to the terrace

BUCKINGHAM GATE SW1

Sebastian Anduze, Jackson-Stops & Staff

Why it's a great buy…
Conveniently situated in central London close to St James's Park, this phenomenal penthouse is a class act and provides light and airy accommodation.

The wow factor…
Finished to a very high standard, this apartment benefits from bi-folding doors leading onto a stunning roof terrace.

Who it would suit…
A professional single person or couple wishing to own the perfect bolthole in central London.

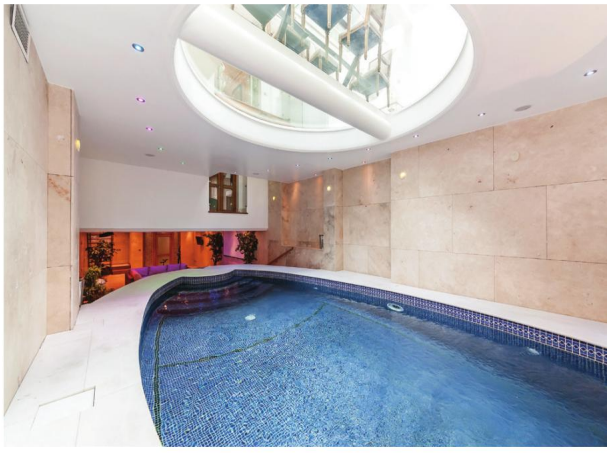
My favourite room…
Has to be the open plan kitchen, dining, reception area flowing to the roof terrace, the perfect space for entertaining.

Why you should buy it…

At this price level the property provides a buyer with an opportunity to own something very special in a fabulous location.

Price on application
020 7727 5111
jackson-stops.co.uk

Dexters



Cheyne Place, SW3

£12,500,000

An impressive seven bedroom house in the heart of Old Chelsea. This expansive home has three grand living rooms, a large roof terrace, garden and Grecian inspired swimming pool which leads to a cinema room via sculpted stairs with an integrated water feature. Enviably located just moments from Sloane Square and the Kings Road, energy rating d.

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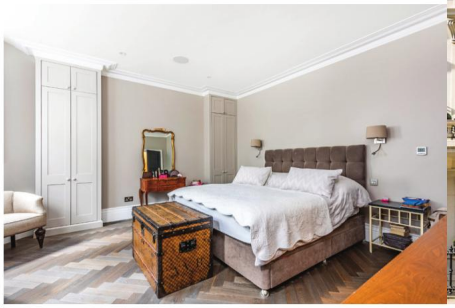
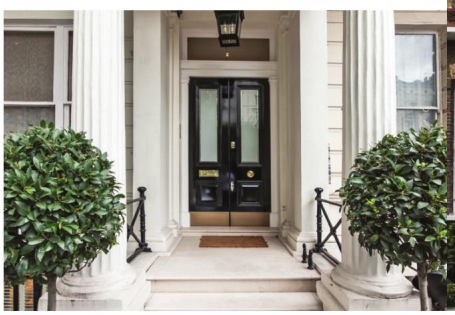


Stafford Terrace, W8

£3,950,000

A stunning four bedroom apartment with a large private garden set in one of Kensington's premier roads. The south facing reception room has 12ft high ceilings and there is a classic contemporary feel to the whole property. Stafford Terrace is located to the North of Kensington High Street on the prestigious Phillimore Estate, energy rating d.

Dexters Kensington 020 7067 2430



Westbourne Terrace, W2

£3,100,000

This stunning, white stucco fronted property leaves a lasting impression. Located on an impressive tree lined terrace avenue this duplex, three bedroom, three bathroom, maisonette is accessed by its own front door, energy rating e.

Dexters Paddington 020 7298 1550

Dexters

Palace Gate, W8

£3,495,000

Located just South of Hyde Park, this three bedroom flat is ideal for anyone who needs space in one of the most popular locations in London, energy rating d.

Dexters Knightsbridge 020 7838 0108

Lexham Gardens, W8

£999,995

A two bedroom, third floor flat with lift on Lexham Gardens. It has communal gardens, nicely proportioned rooms throughout and an open plan kitchen/reception, energy rating d.

Dexters Knightsbridge 020 7838 0108

Ladbroke Road, W11

£1,050 per week

A beautiful and large, newly refurbished two double bedroom flat to rent with oak wood flooring, open plan kitchen and plenty of storage, between Notting Hill and Holland Park, energy rating d.

Dexters Notting Hill 020 7792 0792

Prince Of Wales Terrace, W8

£1,000 per week

A luxurious four bedroom apartment situated in this well maintained portered building, ideally located moments from Kensington Gardens, Hyde Park and Kensington High Street, energy rating c.

Dexters Kensington 020 7067 2434

Tenants fees apply: £180 per tenancy towards administration, £60 reference fee per tenant and £144 towards the end of tenancy check out report (all inc VAT).

jackson-stops.co.uk

Ladbroke Grove, W11

A house arranged over three floors, located approximately 200 metres from Holland Park underground station and the amenities of Holland Park Avenue.
3 reception rooms, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, conservatory; 50 ft west facing garden.
EPC rating D

£2,950,000 Freehold

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Thames Reach, W6

A two double bedroom apartment located in this riverside development designed by Richard Rogers.
Open plan reception room/kitchen, 2 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms; porter, lift, underground parking.
EPC rating D

£1,395,000 Leasehold

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Portland Road, W11

A four bedroom end of terrace house located 0.3 miles from Holland Park Avenue and 0.4 miles from Holland Park station.
Double reception room, eat-in kitchen, 3 bathrooms; private garden. Unfurnished. EPC rating E

£2,000 per week (*fees apply)

Hippodrome Mews, W11

A two bedroom, two bathroom town house in a private cobbled mews located 0.5 miles from Holland Park station.
Reception room opening onto a west facing decked terrace, eat-in kitchen; wooden floors, garage. Unfurnished. EPC rating D

£725 per week (*fees apply)

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* For full details of all associated fees please visit our website: www.jackson-stops.co.uk/london/tenants-service-charges.html

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PARTNER, STRUTT & PARKER CHELSEA

Here's to a much more stable year ahead

There were many head winds in the Prime Central London market place in 2016, and we are looking forward to more stability in 2017.

We re-launched a four bedroom family house on Redesdale Street in Chelsea to the market in January at a revised asking price of £4,275,000 – this was a meaningful price reduction of £575,000 off its initial guide when it first launched in May 2016. The market has softened over the past six months and this new price reflects that adjustment.

The house has a contemporary design including a feature marble staircase and sliding doors that open out onto an attractive landscaped garden, and with access to a large double garage, which is extremely unique for Prime Central London. It has been well received by the market, and generated significant traction from a new audience of buyers.

We have experienced a general return of confidence since last autumn: 2016 was a year of surprises and uncertainty, but the combination of a weak pound following Brexit and general resilience in UK markets has encouraged an increase of overseas investment. Whilst Stamp Duty remains our nemesis, the drop in sterling has offset much of the pain encountered by buyers with access to foreign money. Pricing is everything in the current climate, and motivated sellers have adjusted their expectations in order to ascertain a buyer more swiftly.

Redesdale Street is currently on the market for £4,275,000

It was a year of surprises, but the UK markets have seen an increase in overseas investment

Another great property we are selling is a beautifully presented three bedroom mansion flat in Shelley Court on Tite Street, close to the Royal Hospital and Burton Court. Priced at £3.75m, the flat stretches to some 1,800 sq ft and provides well balanced accommodation throughout.

Shelley Court SW3
£3,750,000
This three bedroom flat stretches to some 1,800 sq ft and provides well balanced accommodation on one floor seldom seen in Chelsea. Of particular note is the attractive bay window in the master bedroom and full height double doors in the reception room.
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